

DISK DRIVE ODOMETER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

If a computer disk drive is stolen and later recovered, there is no way currently to know if the disk was accessed. The present invention offers a solution to the problem of detecting disk access and provides means for implementing quota and usage restrictions as well as detection schemes. The present invention teaches to use a one-way counter which counts the number of bytes written to and read from the drive. The counter itself can only be read. Operating system software can make use of the counter to provide access control and access detection.